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also in his sketch of the Tuaregs whom he met. Ten years ago, the information he gives about these former masters of the desert would have been specially treasured, for they were almost unknown. The French have now shed a flood of light upon these tribes and one of the tests of the value of Mr. Furlong's book is his description of the natives, based upon what he saw of them. It is accurate as far as it goes. Among the author's topics are an account of the vocation of the Greek sponge divers off the Tripoli coast; the discovery of the wrecked hull of the U. S. frigate *Philadelphia*, burned in 1804; personal adventures in his trip with Arabs, 200 miles in the Sahara; the daily life and vicissitudes of the camel and Sahara caravans, the trails they follow and the unique charms of the desert; the esparto pickers who gather fiber for European markets. The record Mr. Furlong has made for us relates to a type of mingled civilization and barbarism that is passing away and it is the more valuable and timely on this account.

Fulfilment of Three Remarkable Prophecies in the History of the Great Empire State, relating to the Development of Steamboat Navigation and Railroad Transportation, 1808-1908.

By Henry Whittemore. 80 pp. and Illustrations. Published by the Author, 1909.

The prophecies referred to are those of John Fitch, who wrote in 1785 that steam would some day be employed to propel vessels across the Atlantic and that steamboats would be preferred for river navigation; Oliver Evans, who said the time would come when people would travel in stages "almost as fast as birds fly, fifteen or twenty miles an hour"; and William C. Redfield, who wrote a pamphlet in 1829 predicting phenomenal development for the Western States as the result of great trunk railroads. The book is an excellent compilation, giving the history of the development and early days of steam transportation in our country.

Central and South America. Vol. 1. By A. H. Keane. Edited by Sir Clements R. Markham. Second Edition, revised. xxvi and 611 pp.,

13 Maps, 84 Illustrations and Index. Edward Stanford, London, 1909. 15s.

Eight years have elapsed since the first issue of this volume in the complete rewriting of the standard "Compendium of Geography and Travel," published by Stanford. In that time, explorers have made much progress in the effort to reduce the area of the still untrodden regions, and there have also been numerous rectifications of frontiers. South America had also advanced in a material sense and especially in the development of railroads in Brazil, Argentina, Bolivia and Peru. All this wealth of new material has been utilized in this new edition to make the picture of the South American Republics true to our present knowledge and the existing conditions. The whole of the continent is treated, excepting the European colonies, British, Dutch and French Guiana, which appear in the volume on Central America and the West Indies. The first three chapters give a general survey of the physical and biological relations of the continent and of the early and later ethnic and historical relations. From 50 to 100 pages are then given to the discussion of each of the republics illustrated by fine coloured maps and excellent photographs.

So large a topic must necessarily be much condensed, but a great deal more than the essence of things is presented and the series to which this volume belongs is widely recognized as probably the best work in English, both for reading and reference, on the geography of the world. Some small matters are worth revision